DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 284 094 CG 020 027

TITLE	Testimony of Edwin Meese III, Attorney General and Chairman, National Drug Policy Board, before U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Regarding Coordination of National Drug Policy and Strategy.
INSTITUTION	Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE	14 May 87
NOTE	30p.
PUB TYPE	Legal/Legislative/Regulatory Materials (090)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Drug Abuse; *Federal Legislation; Federal Regulation; *Illegal Drug Use; *Law Enforcement; *Prevention; Program Implementation
IDENTIFIERS	*National Drug Policy Board

ABSTRACT

The testimony of the United States Attorney General which appears in this document concentrates on three areas: (1) the coordination of federal drug control efforts and the reorganization of the National Drug Policy Board; (2) the performance of the National Drug Policy Board; and (3) the Administration's views on the proposed "Drug Czar" bill, S. 789. The background of the National Drug Policy Board created by a presidential executive order in March, 1987, is outlined and recent board changes are explained. The two coordinating groups within the new policy board structure, the Drug Enforcement Coordinating Group and the Drug Prevention and Health Coordinating Group, are described and subcommittees for each group are listed. The section on recent drug policy achievements highlights a number of significant drug law enforcement activities of the board. Areas discussed, among others, include investigation and prosecution, cocaine seizures, international programs, and the federal prison situation in regard to drug offenses. Progress in creating drug-free federal workplaces, drug-free private sector workplaces, and drug-free schools is also discussed. The Administration's strong opposition to the "Drug Czar" bill is emphasized and several reasons to reject the bill are given. (NB)

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ED284094

Department of Justice

TESTIMONY

OF

EDWIN MEESE III
ATTORNEY GENERAL

AND

CHAIRMAN
NATIONAL DRUG POLICY BOARD

BEFORE

U.S. SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

ON

MAY 14, 1987

REGARDING

COORDINATION OF NATIONAL DRUG POLICY AND STRATEGY

CG 020027

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MR. CHAIRMEN, I AM PLEASED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE TODAY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL DRUG POLICY BOARD TO TESTIFY ON THE COORDINATION OF FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS, THE PERFORMANCE OF THE NATIONAL DRUG POLICY BOARD, AND OUR VIEWS ON YOUR SO CALLED "DRUG CZAR" BILL, S. 789. FIRST, I WILL GIVE YOU A REPORT ON THE BACKGROUND OF THE NATIONAL DRUG POLICY BOARD AND RECENT BOARD CHANGES.

I. POLICY BOARD REORGANIZATION

THE NATIONAL DRUG POLICY BOARD WAS CREATED BY A PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDER ON MARCH 26, 1987. IT OVERSEES ALL FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS. THIS NEW POLICY BOARD INCLUDES THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT POLICY BOARD AND EXPANDS ITS JURISDICTION TO INCLUDE EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE DEMAND FOR DRUGS IN THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS THOSE TO REDUCE THEIR SUPPLY. PRIOR TO MARCH 26, 1987, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION ON THE DEMAND SIDE OF OUR ANTI-DRUG EFFORT WAS LODGED IN THE DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL, ALSO CHAIRED BY ME AS ATTORNEY GENERAL AND ASSISTED BY THE WHITE HOUSE DRUG ABUSE POLICY OFFICE.

BY BRINGING BOTH THE SUPPLY AND DEMAND SIDE OF THE PROBLEM TO THE SAME POLICY FORUM, WE HOPE TO IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING OF HOW THESE TWO AREAS ARE INTER-DEPENDENT AND HOW OUR POLICY AND STRATEGY TO COMBAT BOTH SIDES OF THIS PROBLEM CAN BE BETTER COORDINATED.

THE NEW BOARD SERVES AS THE CABINET-LEVEL FORUM FOR ALL SIGNIFICANT DRUG POLICY DECISIONS, INTERAGENCY COORDINATION AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE WITHIN THE DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT AND DRUG PREVENTION AND HEALTH COMMUNITIES. THE DRUG POLICY BOARD WILL ALSO SERVE AS A WAY TO BRING IMPORTANT DECISIONS TO THE PRESIDENT WHERE NECESSARY.

THE BOARD, WHICH MEETS MONTHLY IN THE WHITE HOUSE, IS CHAIRED BY MYSELF AND VICE-CHAIRED BY DR. OTIS BOWEN, SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE NEW BOARD INCLUDE: THE SECRETARIES OF STATE, DEFENSE, TREASURY, TRANSPORTATION, EDUCATION, ENERGY, LABOR, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, INTERIOR AND AGRICULTURE, THE DIRECTORS OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH THE PRESIDENT'S AND VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICES.

WITHIN THE NEW POLICY BOARD STRUCTURE, THERE ARE TWO COORDINATING GROUPS, EACH COMPRISED OF DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, HEADS OF AGENCIES, AND OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED ON THE BOARD. STEPHEN S. TROTT, ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, CHAIRS THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT COORDINATING GROUP. IN ADDITION, A DRUG PREVENTION AND HEALTH COORDINATING GROUP HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED, CHAIRED BY DR. DONALD I. MACDONALD, DIRECTOR OF BOTH THE ALCOHOL, DRUG ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND THE WHITE HOUSE DRUG ABUSE POLICY OFFICE.

THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT COORDINATING GROUP MEETS MONTHLY AND AT PRESENT, THE FOLLOWING SUBCOMMITTEES ARE DEALING WITH CURRENT ENFORCEMENT ISSUES:

- o SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE CHAIRED BY JACK LAWN, ADMINISTRATOR, DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION.

- o SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG-RANGE SURVEILLANCE, CHAIRED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, CHAPMAN COX, DOD.

- o SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE SOUTHWEST BORDER OR OPERATION ALLIANCE, CHAIRED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, FRANK KEATING.

- o SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE BAHAMAS, CHAIRED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE, ANN WROBLESKI.

- o WORKING GROUP ON C^3I CENTERS (COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATION AND INTELLIGENCE) CHAIRED BY ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, WILLIAM ROSENBLATT, CUSTOMS.

- o INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON DRUG ENFORCEMENT COMMUNICATIONS, CHAIRED BY LIEUTENANT GENERAL STEPHEN OLMSTEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

RECENTLY, KEY ENFORCEMENT COORDINATING GROUP MEMBERS, SUPPORTED BY POLICY BOARD STAFF AND AGENCY STAFF, HAVE BEEN WORKING ON A PROJECT TO FORMALIZE LEAD AGENCY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF OUR DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY. THIS EXERCISE IS PART OF CARRYING OUT THE MANDATE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 12590 OF MARCH 26, 1987. AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED JUST THIS WEEK ON A VERY COMPLEX, KEY COMPONENT OF OUR ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY, INTERDICTION. THE COAST GUARD AND CUSTOMS HAVE AGREED ON THEIR RESPECTIVE AGENCY ROLES IN INTERDICTION. THE DETAILS ON HOW AGENCY ROLES HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED WILL BE INCLUDED IN OUR COMPREHENSIVE INTERDICTION PLAN WHICH WE WILL SOON BE SUBMITTING TO BOTH THE HOUSE AND THE SENATE AS REQUIRED BY THE DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1986.

WE ARE ALSO WORKING OUT THE DETAILS FOR DELINEATION OF ENFORCEMENT AGENCY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN THE OTHER ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY COMPONENTS OF INTELLIGENCE, INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS.

THE DRUG PREVENTION AND HEALTH COORDINATING GROUP WAS RECENTLY FORMED BY THE MARCH 26, 1987 EXECUTIVE ORDER ESTABLISHING THE NDPB. THE INITIAL MEETING WAS HELD ON MARCH 27. THE MEMBERSHIP IS COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DEPARTMENTS OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, LABOR, INTERIOR, DEFENSE, JUSTICE, STATE, TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY AND TREASURY, ACTION, OPM AND OMB.

THE FOCUS OF THE COORDINATING GROUP IS ON THE HEALTH-RELATED AREAS OF PREVENTION, EDUCATION, REHABILITATION, TREATMENT AND RESEARCH. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THIS COORDINATING GROUP WILL BE DEALT WITH BY FOUR SUBCOMMITTEES WHICH ADDRESS DISTINCT SEGMENTS OF THE TARGET POPULATION BASED ON AGE AND THE DEGREE OF DRUG USE:

- o SUBCOMMITTEE ON TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION, CHAIRED BY CHARLES SCHUSTER, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE, HHS. THIS GROUP WILL ADDRESS THE MOST DIFFICULT SEGMENT OF THE DRUG USER POPULATION...THE LONG-TERM ADDICTS. PRINCIPAL ISSUES INCLUDE THE GENERAL AREAS OF DRUG TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IV DRUG USE AND ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS), DRUG ABUSE AND HOMELESSNESS, AND UNDERLYING RISK FACTORS LEADING TO DRUG ABUSE SUCH AS PSYCHIATRIC, MEDICAL, EDUCATIONAL, AND SOCIAL DYSFUNCTIONS.

- o SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGH RISK YOUTH, CHAIRED BY VERNE SPIERS, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION, DOJ. THIS GROUP WILL FOCUS ON ISSUES RELATED TO YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A HIGH RISK OF BECOMING CHRONIC DRUG USERS. THIS POPULATION INCLUDES CHILDREN FROM "DYSFUNCTIONAL" FAMILIES, AND CHILDREN WITH A VARIETY OF SOCIAL, PSYCHIATRIC, AND EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS.

- SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKPLACE POPULATION, CHAIRED BY JAMES COLVARD, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OPM. THIS SUBCOMMITTEE WILL ADDRESS DRUG USE IN BASICALLY HEALTHY PEOPLE WHO ARE OLDER THAN SCHOOL AGE. A MAJOR FOCUS WILL BE ON THE 20 TO 40 YEAR OLD POPULATION THAT GREW UP IN A TIME WHEN ILLICIT DRUG USE WAS TREATED BY MANY AS A HARMLESS PHASE OF ADOLESCENCE. THE WORK PLACE IS LOOKED UPON AS AN LOCATION TO REACH INDIVIDUALS ABOUT THE UNACCEPTABILITY OF DRUG USE AND AS A FORUM TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AND MATERIALS WHICH THEY CAN GIVE TO THEIR FAMILIES. ADDITIONALLY, THIS GROUP PROVIDES OVERSIGHT FOR IMPLEMENTING THE DRUG TESTING INITIATIVE AND CARRYING OUT THE PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE ORDER FOR A DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE.

- SUBCOMMITTEE ON PREVENTION EDUCATION, CHAIRED BY JOHN WALTERS, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. THE FOCUS OF THIS GROUP IS ON THE NON-USING YOUTH AND THE EARLY USERS. THE GROUP WILL EMPHASIZE THE "JUST SAY NO" MESSAGE AND SUPPORTS YOUTH DECISIONS NOT TO USE DRUGS.

IN SUPPORT OF THE POLICY BOARD AND THE COORDINATING GROUPS IS A POLICY BOARD STAFF, CURRENTLY CONSISTING OF AN ACTING STAFF DIRECTOR, SENIOR PEOPLE DETAILED FULL TIME FROM THE DOD, COAST GUARD, DEA, DOJ, FBI, STATE, DHHS, OPM AND TREASURY AS WELL AS SEVERAL FULL TIME SUPPORT PERSONNEL. I ALSO HAVE A FULL TIME ASSISTANT DEVOTED SOLELY TO POLICY BOARD MATTERS.

AS A RESULT OF THE EXECUTIVE ORDER SIGNED MARCH 26, THE CURRENT FULL TIME COMPLEMENT OF 12 PERSONNEL WILL BE AUGMENTED BY ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS FROM THE DEMAND SIDE. THE STAFF AND ADDITIONAL LIAISON REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER PARTICIPATING AGENCIES MEET ON A WEEKLY BASIS.

THE STAFF PERFORMS RESEARCH FOR THE BOARD AND SERVES AS A CLEARING HOUSE AND CENTRAL REPOSITORY FOR INFORMATION. THEY ENSURE THAT THE POLICY BOARD HAS THE INFORMATION IT NEEDS TO MAKE ITS DECISIONS, PERFORM ANY ANALYSIS THAT THE COORDINATING GROUP NEEDS TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE POLICY BOARD; AND FACILITATE COORDINATION BY MAINTAINING EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AMONG AGENCY AND AGENCY PROGRAMS.

II. RECENT DRUG POLICY ACHIEVEMENTS

MUCH OF THE BOARD'S WORK, AS WELL AS THAT OF ITS COORDINATING GROUPS AND STAFF, OCCURS "BEHIND THE SCENES" BY FACILITATING, ENCOURAGING, AND PROVIDING ADVICE IN SUPPORT OF INDIVIDUAL AGENCY AND INTERAGENCY OPERATIONS. HOWEVER, THE BOARD HAS ALSO BEEN INTIMATELY INVOLVED IN SIGNIFICANT POLICY DECISIONS. IN THE PAST YEAR, THE BOARD OVERSAW A NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES SOME OF WHICH I WOULD LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT FOR YOU:

o NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY: THE POLICY BOARD DEVELOPED A NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY THAT BUILDS UPON THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RECENT YEARS. THE 200 PAGE STRATEGY DETAILS NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT PLANS, PROGRAMS, AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS. A COMPREHENSIVE INTERAGENCY IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS HAS BEEN DEVELOPED BY THE POLICY BOARD STAFF TO ASSURE THAT THE OBJECTIVES AND PLANS ANNOUNCED IN THE STRATEGY TAKE CONCRETE, MEASURABLE FORM. THIS DETAILED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN SHOULD BE COMPLETED FOR THE ENTIRE STRATEGY BY THE END OF THIS SUMMER, AND WILL AID THE BOARD BY PROVIDING SOME MEASURES OF EFFECTIVENESS AND IN PROVIDING REPORTS TO THE CONGRESS.

o FEDERAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT PROGRESS REPORT FOR 1986: THE POLICY BOARD HAS RECENTLY COMPILED AND SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS THIS WEEK, THIS ENFORCEMENT PROGRESS REPORT FOR 1986. THIS REPORT PROVIDES STRIKING EVIDENCE THAT WE ARE NOW INTERDICTING MORE DRUGS, FORFEITING MORE DRUG TRAFFICKING ASSETS, AND ARRESTING, PROSECUTING AND CONVICTING MORE DRUG TRAFFICKERS THAN EVER BEFORE.

THIS REPORT UPDATES THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES REPORTED IN THE NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT POLICY BOARD'S FEDERAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT PROGRESS REPORT, 1984-1985. THE REPORT DESCRIBES FEDERAL AGENCY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN REDUCING DRUG PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING THROUGH INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION, INTERDICTION, INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL, DOMESTIC CANNABIS

ERADICATION, REGULATION OF THE LEGITIMATE DRUG INDUSTRY, AND INTELLIGENCE. ADDITIONAL CHAPTERS REVIEW THE DRUG PROBLEM IN 1986, OUTLINE THE ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT OF 1986, AND CONSIDER THE ROLE OF THE FEDERAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY IN REDUCING THE DEMAND FOR ILLICIT DRUGS.

SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN DRUG ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES IN 1986 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

o <u>INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION</u>

- DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA) ARRESTS AND CONVICTIONS WERE HIGHER IN FY 1986 THAN IN ANY OTHER YEAR IN ITS HISTORY. FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DRUG CONVICTIONS ALSO REACHED RECORD LEVELS. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DEA ARRESTS OF CLASS I AND II VIOLATORS (THE MOST SIGNIFICANT) INCREASED 49 PERCENT FROM 1985 TO 1986 (FROM 4,057 TO 6,002 ARRESTS). THE NUMBER OF ARRESTS IN CLASS I AND II CASES INCREASED 36 PERCENT DURING THE SAME PERIOD (FROM 9,411 TO 12,819 ARRESTS).

- CONVICTIONS OBTAINED THROUGH INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING DEA INCREASED 15 PERCENT FROM 1985 TO 1986 (FROM 10,549 TO 12,178 CONVICTIONS). FBI CONVICTIONS OBTAINED INCREASED BY NEARLY 22 PERCENT (FROM 2,293 TO 2,791 CONVICTIONS).

- THE TOTAL VALUE OF DRUG-RELATED ASSETS SEIZED BY DEA INCEASED 78 PERCENT FROM 1985 ($171.9 MILLION) TO 1986 ($305.4 MILLION). CUSTOMS DRUG-RELATED ASSET SEIZURES ALSO INCREASED IN VALUE FROM 1985 TO 1986 BY NEARLY 27 PERCENT ($95.8 MILLION TO $121.5 MILLION).

- CLANDESTINE LABORATORY SEIZURES INCREASED 21 PERCENT FROM 1985 TO 1986. THIS INCREASE INCLUDES A 45 PERCENT INCREASE IN METHAMPHETAMINE LAB SEIZURES. A TOTAL OF 509 LABS WERE SEIZED IN 1986.

- FBI AND DEA DRUG REMOVALS (SEIZURES AND PURCHASES) CONTINUED TO INCREASE DRAMATICALLY IN 1986. COCAINE REMOVALS INCREASED 54 PERCENT, MARIJUANA REMOVALS INCREASED 11 PERCENT, AND DANGEROUS DRUG REMOVALS INCREASED 64 PERCENT FROM 1985 TO 1986. IN 1986, FBI AND DEA COCAINE REMOVALS TOTALED 27,918 KG., MARIJUANA REMOVALS TOTALED 826,000 KG., AND DANGEROUS DRUG REMOVALS AMOUNTED TO 50,055,000 DOSAGE UNITS.

- DEA STATE AND LOCAL TASK FORCE PROGRAM ARRESTS AND CONVICTIONS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY FROM 1985 TO 1986. THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ARRESTED THROUGH PROGRAM EFFORTS INCREASED BY 1,238 (39 PERCENT). THE NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS INCREASED BY 383 (19 PERCENT).

- THE ORGANIZED CRIME DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE PROGRAM CONTINUES ITS MULTI-AGENCY DRUG INVESTIGATIVE AND PROSECUTORIAL SUCCESSES. IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1986, 936 INDICTMENTS AND INFORMATIONS WERE RETURNED CHARGING OVER 1,500 INDIVIDUALS. CASH ASSET SEIZURES TOTALED OVER $71 MILLION FOR THE PERIOD.

o COCAINE SEIZURES BY CUSTOMS, COAST GUARD, AND INS CONTINUED TO INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY IN 1986. CUSTOMS COCAINE SEIZURES INCREASED BY 2,015 POUNDS (FOUR PERCENT) FROM FISCAL YEAR 1985 TO 1986. COAST GUARD COCAINE SEIZURES INCREASED BY 1,605 POUNDS (27 PERCENT). INS COCAINE SEIZURES MORE THAN DOUBLED, INCREASING 1,385 POUNDS (101 PERCENT). DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF FY 1987, THE CUSTOMS SERVICE COCAINE SEIZURES INCREASED BY ALMOST 100% OVER THE FIRST QUARTET OF 1986.

o INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS - MULTI-LATERAL INTERDICTION COORDINATION: BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATION ESTABLISHED DURING OPERATION HAT TRICK II IN 1985, SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS WAS MADE IN STRENGTHENING REGIONALLY-COORDINATED INTERDICTION OPERATIONS THROUGHOUT THE CARIBBEAN BASIN. THESE INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS, WHICH INVOLVED MORE COUNTRIES THAN EVER, INCLUDED COORDINATED MARINE PATROLS AND LAND EFFORTS. SUCH MULTILATERAL COORDINATION PROVIDES A MAJOR INCREASE IN EFFECTIVENESS TO UNILATERAL U.S. INTERDICTION EFFORTS IN THE REGION.

o INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS - OPERATION BLAST FURNACE: THE POLICY BOARD ESTABLISHED THE POLICY GROUNDWORK FOR, AND APPROVED OF OUR ASSISTANCE TO THE BOLIVIAN OPERATION BLAST FURNACE PRIOR TO ITS COMMENCEMENT. THIS OPERATION VIRTUALLY STOPPED THE TRAFFICKING IN COCA LEAVES IN BOLIVIA DURING THE SUMMER AND FALL OF 1986. THE DESTRUCTION OF OVER 20 COCAINE LABORATORIES ACHIEVED A DRAMATIC DECREASE IN THE PRODUCTION OF AND PRICE FOR COCA LEAVES, AND REDUCED CIVIL AIR TRAFFIC IN BOLIVIA BY 90 PERCENT. BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT SET A PRECEDENT WHEREBY U.S. CIVILIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES SUPPORTED BY MILITARY ASSETS WERE INVITED BY A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST THEIR DRUG ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS.

o INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS - ERADICATION: IN OUR CONTINUING EMPHASIS IN TRYING TO STOP DRUGS AT THEIR SOURCE, WE HAVE EXPANDED OUR SUPPORT OF SOURCE COUNTRY ERADICATION. IN 1981, 2 FOREIGN COUNTRIES WERE ERADICATING DRUG CROPS WITH OUR ENCOURAGEMENT. IN 1986, THE NUMBER JUMPED TO 20. COLOMBIA HAS MADE REMARKABLE PROGRESS IN DRUG ERADICATION. DEA REPORTS THAT COLOMBIA HAS ERADICATED ALMOST ALL OF ITS DOMESTIC MARIJUANA CROP THUS FAR IN 1987.

o INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS - ENFORCEMENT: WHILE THE EXTRADITION OF CARLOS LEHDER FROM COLOMBIA TO STAND TRIAL IN THE UNITED STATES WAS A COURAGEOUS ACT BY THE COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES, IT ALSO DEMONSTRATES THE WISDOM OF OUR EFFORTS TO SECURE IMPROVED EXTRADITION TREATIES. PROMPTING EXTRADITION OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS

IS A HIGH PRIORITY OF OUR INTERNATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS. MR. LEHDER'S EXTRADITION AND THE EXTRADITION OF MANY OTHERS TO STAND TRIAL FOR DRUG TRAFFICKERS OFFENSES SHOWS THAT NATIONS CAN EFFECTIVELY COOPERATE WITHIN ESTABLISHED LEGAL SYSTEMS AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING.

o SOUTHEAST BORDER AIR INTERDICTION: A COMPREHENSIVE POLICY BOARD STAFF STUDY EXAMINED AIR AND RELATED MARINE INTERDICTION CAPABILITIES ALONG THE SOUTHEAST BORDER, AND PRESENTED A VARIETY OF OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GREATLY ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THOSE CAPABILITIES. E-2C AIRCRAFT, AEROSTAT RADAR, COMMUNICATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE FACILITIES, AND OTHER ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ARE BEING DEPLOYED TO ENHANCE OUR AIR INTERDICTION SYSTEM. THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE FAA ARE PRESENTLY STUDYING RADAR AND OTHER HARDWARE NEEDS IN THE INTERDICTION AREA.

o FEDERAL PRISON SITUATION: THE POLICY BOARD IS REVIEWING THE FEDERAL PRISONER AND IMMIGRATION SITUATION AND IS EXAMINING OPTIONS FOR PRE-TRIAL DETENTION SPACE, PRISON AND IMMIGRATION SPACE OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS. OVER ONE-THIRD OF ALL CURRENT FEDERAL PRISONERS WERE CONVICTED OF DRUG OFFENSES. ENHANCED PENALTIES MANDATED BY THE ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT OF 1986 AND THE SENTENCING COMMISSION GUIDELINES WILL LIKELY INCREASE THAT NUMBER, FURTHER STRAINING PRISON CAPACITY. TO ALLEVIATE THIS PROBLEM, THE PRESIDENT HAS PROPOSED SIGNIFICANT NEW FUNDING IN HIS 1988 BUDGET. IN ADDITION, THE POLICY BOARD'S PRISON SPACE

SUBCOMMITTEE HAS BEEN STUDYING PROJECTED PRISON AND JAIL SHORTFALLS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS AND WILL DEVELOP A MIX OF SOLUTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN THE SHORT-TERM.

o FEDERAL DRUG RESOURCE ALLOCATION: ADDRESSING ITS BUDGET RESPONSIBILITIES, THE POLICY BOARD MOUNTED AN IMPORTANT EFFORT TO BRING GREATER CONSISTENCY TO REPORTING OF DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT SPENDING. AT THE BOARD'S REQUEST, OMB DEVISED A STANDARD METHODOLOGY FOR DETERMINING WHAT PORTION OF AN AGENCY'S SPENDING HAS BEEN ALLOCATED FOR DRUG CONTROL PURPOSES, AND FURTHER, TO WHICH STRATEGY COMPONENT THIS SPENDING MAY BE ATTRIBUTED. THIS ACTIVITY WILL IMPROVE THE UNDERSTANDING OF HOW FEDERAL DOLLARS ARE SPENT AND HELP THE BOARD DETERMINE THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT USE OF FEDERAL RESOURCES.

o OPERATION ALLIANCE: THE POLICY BOARD ANALYZED THE SEVERE AND GROWING DRUG PROBLEMS ALONG THE SOUTHWEST BORDER AND ESTABLISHED A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE BOARD'S COORDINATING GROUP TO OVERSEE PLANS FOR A CAREFUL RESPONSE. IN TURN, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE POLICY BOARD, OPERATION ALLIANCE WAS ESTABLISHED. BEGUN IN 1986 AND COORDINATED WITH NNBIS, OPERATION ALLIANCE IS DESIGNED TO CHOKE OFF THE RAPIDLY INCREASING FLOW OF DRUGS ACROSS THE U.S.-MEXICAN BORDER. THIS UNPRECEDENTED INTERAGENCY EFFORT ALONG THE SOUTHWEST BORDER INVOLVES THOUSANDS OF FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS AND SOPHISTICATED NEW EQUIPMENT TO FIGHT DRUG TRAFFICKING ALONG THE ENTIRE 2,000 MILE BORDER AND ADJACENT WATER.

o IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT: EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT IS A MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF THE POLICY BOARD AS OUTLINED IN THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY WHICH THE POLICY BOARD RELEASED IN FEBRUARY OF THIS YEAR. THE ACT WILL IMPROVE DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFICIENCY IN THE AREAS OF INTELLIGENCE, INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL, INTERDICTION, INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION, AND DIVERSION CONTROL.

I STAND READY TO GIVE YOU A MORE DETAILED STATUS REPORT ON WHERE WE STAND IN IMPLEMENTING THE KEY PROVISIONS OF THIS BILL.

o DEMAND SIDE INITIATIVES OF THE DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL: AS I STATED EARLIER, THE DEMAND SIDE WAS FORMALLY INCORPORATED INTO THE NATIONAL DRUG POLICY BOARD WITH THE SIGNING OF THE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12590. PREVIOUS TO THAT DATE THE DEMAND ISSUES WERE DEALT WITH IN THE DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON DRUG ABUSE POLICY. THIS GROUP DEVELOPED THE INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS TO ASSIST IN IMPLEMENTING FOUR OF THE SIX NEW GOALS ANNOUNCED BY PRESIDENT REAGAN ON AUGUST 4, 1986.

1. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACES FOR ALL AMERICANS;

2. DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS, FROM ELEMENTARY TO UNIVERSITY LEVEL;

3. EXPANDED DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT TO TACKLE THE HEALTH PROBLEMS CAUSED BY DRUGS;

6. INCREASED PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PREVENTION -- THE GOAL ON WHICH SUCCESS ULTIMATELY DEPENDS -- TO HELP EVERY CITIZEN GET INVOLVED IN FIGHTING THE DRUG ABUSE MENACE AND TO MAKE THE USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS INTOLERABLE THROUGHOUT OUR SOCIETY.

THE REMAIN 2 GOALS ARE ADDRESSED BY THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT COORDINATING GROUP.

THIS WORKING GROUP ON DRUG ABUSE POLICY SUBMITTED A FINAL REPORT ON FEBRUARY 28, 1987 ENTITLED WORKING PAPERS: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S FALL 1986 INITIATIVES AGAINST THE USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS. THIS REPORT DETAILED THE PROGRESS MADE TO DATE IN IMPLEMENTING THESE 6 PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES, AND WILL BE USED BY THE POLICY BOARD AND ITS COORDINATING GROUPS IN FURTHER POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION.

SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND HEALTH IN 1986-1987 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

o DRUG-FREE FEDERAL WORKPLACES: SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE TOWARDS DRUG-FREE FEDERAL WORKPLACES SINCE PRESIDENT REAGAN SIGNED EXECUTIVE ORDER 12564 ON SEPTEMBER 15, 1986 AND ISSUED HIS PERSONAL COMMUNICATION TO EACH AND EVERY EXECUTIVE BRANCH EMPLOYEE ON OCTOBER 4, 1986. THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT ISSUED ITS GOVERNMENT-WIDE GUIDELINES ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE ORDER ON NOVEMBER 28, 1986, AND

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ISSUED SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL GUIDELINES FOR DRUG TESTING PROGRAMS ON FEBRUARY 19, 1987. DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES ARE IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMS TO INCREASE DRUG ABUSE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION, IDENTIFY AND REHABILITATE ILLEGAL DRUG USERS, AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF TREATMENT SERVICES FOR EMPLOYEES.

o DRUG-FREE WORKPLACES: FEDERAL AGENCIES ARE ALSO DEVELOPING PROGRAMS TO ASSIST THE INCREASING NUMBERS OF PRIVATE SECTOR COMPANIES WHICH ARE ADOPTING DRUG-FREE POLICIES. HHS HAS ESTABLISHED A TOLL-FREE "DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE HELPLINE" -- 800-843-4971 -- TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO EMPLOYERS ABOUT STOPPING DRUG ABUSE IN THE WORKPLACE, IS PREPARING A BOOKLET ON "DEVELOPING AN OCCUPATIONAL DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM," AND HAS ESTABLISHED A NEW OFFICE FOR WORKPLACE INITIATIVES. THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR IS STUDYING MODEL PROGRAMS AND WORKING WITH HHS ON INITIATIVES TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING TO BUSINESSES AND UNIONS.

o DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS: THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION HAS CONTINUED HIS ROLE AS NATIONAL ADVOCATE FOR DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS, INITIATING A CAMPAIGN "SCHOOLS WITHOUT DRUGS: THE CHALLENGE" TO MOBILIZE LOCAL COMMUNITY EFFORTS. ON SEPTEMBER 15, 1986, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ISSUED THE BOOKLET SCHOOLS WITHOUT DRUGS, AND SINCE THAT TIME HAS DISTRIBUTED OVER 1,500,000 COPIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY. EDUCATION HAS EXPEDITED THE RELEASE OF STATE GRANTS AUTHORIZED BY THE DRUG FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES ACT OF 1986

AND HAS HOSTED A JANUARY 1987 CONFERENCE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVES ON THE NEW PROGRAM. ACTION, THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES ARE WORKING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MAJOR NATIONAL INITIATIVE TO ELIMINATE DRUG ABUSE IN OUR NATION'S SCHOOLS.

o EXPANDED DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT: THE PRESIDENT REQUESTED AND CONGRESS AUTHORIZED ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR EMERGENCY EXPANSION OF SERVICES IN TREATMENT CENTERS WHICH HAVE A HIGH DEMAND FOR SERVICES BY ENDEMIC DRUG USERS WHO COULD NOT OTHERWISE AFFORD TREATMENT. $165 MILLION WAS APPROPRIATED FOR THESE SERVICES. HHS IS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO ASSURE THE TIMELY DISTRIBUTION OF THESE FUNDS THROUGH STATE BLOCK GRANTS.

o EXPANDED DRUG ABUSE RESEARCH: THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES IS DEVELOPING ENHANCED EPIDEMIOLOGY AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS WHICH WILL ENSURE ACCURATE TRACKING OF THE INCIDENCE AND PREVALENCE OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE AND IMPROVED IDENTIFICATION OF RISK FACTORS AND RISK GROUPS. HHS IS ALSO EXPANDING RESEARCH WHICH WILL STRENGTHEN RESOURCES FOR PREVENTING, IDENTIFYING AND TREATING ILLEGAL DRUG USE.

o INCREASED PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PREVENTION: ON SEPTEMBER 14, 1986, THE PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY PRESENTED A NATIONALLY-TELEVISED CALL TO ARMS, CHALLENGING AND ENCOURAGING CITIZENS AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL CRUSADE TO ELIMINATE THE USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS. THE PUBLIC HAS

RESPONDED ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO THE CALL TO ACTION. ACROSS THE NATION, INDIVIDUALS ARE WORKING TO MAKE THEIR SCHOOLS, INDUSTRIES, TRANSPORTATION, HOMES AND FAMILIES FREE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS AND THE ABUSE OF ALCOHOL. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RESOURCES HAVE BEEN INCREASED TO ASSIST THE BROAD NATIONAL EFFORT: HHS HAS ESTABLISHED A NEW OFFICE FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS ARE BEING ENCOURAGED THROUGH AN EXPANDED PROGRAM AT ACTION. NUMEROUS OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES HAVE INITIATIVES UNDERWAY TO INCREASE DRUG ABUSE AWARENESS AND PREVENT THE USE OF DRUGS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES PRODUCED A SERIES OF PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS ENTITLED COCAINE-THE BIG LIE.

o DRUG-FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION IS TAKING THE LEAD IN A NATIONAL EFFORT TO ENSURE SAFE TRANSPORTATION FOR PEOPLE AND GOODS. ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACTIVITIES ARE BEING PURSUED IN ALL AREAS OF TRANSPORTATION, INCLUDING AVIATION, WATER, RAIL, MOTOR CARRIER, PIPELINE, BUS AND URBAN RAIL TRANSPORTATION.

o DRUG-FREE PUBLIC HOUSING: THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT HAS TAKEN THE LEAD IN A COOPERATIVE NATIONAL EFFORT TO ACHIEVE DRUG-FREE PUBLIC HOUSING. HUD HAS FORMED A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEPARTMENTS OF JUSTICE, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND LABOR, AND ACTION TO WORK WITH LOCAL PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITIES, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS, AND OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN EDUCATING THE RESIDENCE AND PREVENTING THE SALE

AND DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS. ON MAY 1-2, 1987, THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS AND THE FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP HELD A NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DRUG-FREE PUBLIC HOUSING TO ASSIST THE ATTENDEES IN FORMING ACTION PLANS FOR THEIR OWN HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS.

o THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE FOR A DRUG FREE AMERICA: ON MAY 5, 1987, PRESIDENT REAGAN SIGNED AN EXECUTIVE ORDER ESTABLISHING THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE FOR A DRUG FREE AMERICA, AS AUTHORIZED BY THE ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT OF 1986. OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE WILL BE A CONTINUING OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO SHARE THEIR IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES IN ORDER TO VIGOROUSLY AND DIRECTLY ATTACK DRUG ABUSE AT ALL LEVELS. IT WILL REVIEW THE NATION'S PROGRESS, ASSESS WHAT WORKS AND WHY, AND SEEK TO CONTINUE THE MOMENTUM OF THE NATIONAL CRUSADE TO STOP THE USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS AND THE ABUSE OF ALCOHOL. THE CONFERENCE WILL REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS ON THE POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND NATIONAL STRATEGY NECESSARY TO BUILD UPON WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN ACCOMPLISHED AND WORK TOWARD A DRUG-FREE AMERICA.

III. COMMENTS ON S. 789, THE DRUG CZAR BILL

THIS DRUG CZAR BILL IS A DRASTIC PROPOSAL WHICH WILL UNDO THE STEADY PROGRESS TOWARD IMPROVING DRUG POLICY AND STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION WHICH WE HAVE MADE WITH THE NATIONAL DRUG POLICY BOARD (NDPB), AND ITS PREDECESSOR, THE NATIONAL DRUG

ENFORCEMENT POLICY BOARD (NDEPB). THE NDEPB WAS CREATED A LITTLE OVER 2 YEARS AGO. THE LAW TOOK EFFECT IN JANUARY 1985 AND ITS FIRST MEETING TOOK PLACE IN APRIL 1985. THE NDPB WHICH EXPANDED JURISDICTION TO INCLUDE THE DEMAND SIDE WAS CREATED ON MARCH 26, 1987.

THE EFFORT TO DELINEATE AGENCY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES HAS JUST STARTED TO BEAR FRUIT. THE DESIGNATION OF A LEAD AGENCY IN THE INTERDICTION COMPONENT OF OUR STRATEGY, TOGETHER WITH DETAILED ELABORATION ON OTHER AGENCY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, IS BEING FINALIZED AND WILL BE SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS. ALTHOUGH CONGRESSIONAL IMPATIENCE WITH THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH FOR NOT MAKING QUICKER PROGRESS IN OUR ANTI-DRUG EFFORTS IS UNDERSTANDABLE, WE SHOULD TAKE CARE NOT TO ACT RASHLY OUT OF THIS IMPATIENCE. WE NEED MORE TIME THAN WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO DATE.

WE MUST NOT LOSE SIGHT OF THE BOTTOM LINE THAT WE ARE NOW INTERDICTING MORE DRUGS, SEIZING MORE DRUGS, SECURING THE FORFEITURE OF MORE ASSETS, ARRESTING, PROSECUTING, AND CONVICTING MORE DRUG TRAFFICKERS, AND MORE ACTIVELY DISCOURAGING THE USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS THAN EVER BEFORE.

IF YOU THINK THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN CUTTING BACK ON ITS WAR ON DRUGS, OR DEMONSTRATING INEFFECTIVENESS THEN YOU HAVEN'T BEEN LISTENING TO THE DRUG CULTURE SPOKESMEN OR THEIR SYMPATHIZERS, OR TO THE DRUG TRAFFICKERS AND THEIR DEFENSE ATTORNEYS. ASK THEM TO TELL YOU HONESTLY WHETHER THIS

ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE DRUG TRAFFICKING AND DRUG USE MORE DIFFICULT.

WE HAVE HEARD MUCH RECENTLY OF THE OLD CHARGE OF LACK OF COORDINATION IN OUR ANTI-DRUG EFFORTS, AND RESULTING TURF WARS BETWEEN THE AGENCIES. I THINK A WORD OF CAUTION TO YOU ON THAT SCORE IS IN ORDER.

DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN AGENCIES WORKING IN THE SAME ARENA IS NOT UNCOMMON AND SHOULD NOT BE EQUATED WITH A BREAKDOWN IN COORDINATION. AGGRIEVED AGENCIES THEMSELVES MAY COMPLAIN OF A LACK OF COORDINATION AS A DEFENSE MECHANISM AGAINST A COMPETING AGENCY. WE MUST NOT OVERREACT TO THESE CHARGES, BUT INSTEAD LOOK BEHIND THEM TO SEE IF THEY HAVE ANY REAL SUBSTANCE. THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT WE HAVE DECIDED NOT TO USE THE SINGLE AGENCY APPROACH TO THIS COMPLEX PROBLEM WHICH NATURALLY CUTS ACROSS SO MANY DIFFERENT JURISDICTIONS, AND AS WE ATTEMPT TO UTILIZE THE MANY AGENCIES WITH ALREADY EXISTING RESOURCES IN PLACE, YOU CAN BE SURE THAT THE COORDINATION JOB WILL NOT BE AN EASY ONE, BUT IT CAN BE DONE, AND IS BEING IMPROVED STEADILY.

IT IS A COMMON MISTAKE TO SEE ANY DISAGREEMENT AMONG LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AS A BREAKDOWN IN COORDINATION. THEY ARE MADE UP OF ACTIVE AND AGGRESSIVE PEOPLE. NO LARGE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY EXISTS THAT HAS NOT EXPERIENCED DISAGREEMENTS AND JURISDICTIONAL DISPUTES WITHIN ITS OWN RANKS: THE HOMICIDE SQUAD OFTEN LOCKS HORNS WITH THE ROBBERY SQUAD AND SO ON. AND

OBVIOUSLY, DISPUTES AMONG DIFFERENT LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES ARE EVEN MORE COMMON. OFTEN THIS REFLECTS A HEALTHY ESPIRIT DE CORPS, A SENSE OF COMPETITION AND SOME CHECKS AND BALANCES THAT STRENGTHEN LAW ENFORCEMENT. IN EVALUATING LAW ENFORCEMENT, THEREFORE, ONE MUST BE CAREFUL TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN SPIRITED COMPETITION ON THE ONE HAND, AND LACK OF COORDINATION ON THE OTHER. WE HAVE MADE GREAT STRIDES IN COORDINATING FEDERAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS IN THE PAST SIX YEARS. TO CAST ALL OF THAT WORK ASIDE IN FAVOR OF A NEW APPROACH AT THIS LATE DATE WOULD BE THE HEIGHT OF FOLLY.

THE ADMINISTRATION STRONGLY OPPOSES THIS "DRUG CZAR" BILL. IT WOULD PROVE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE IN THE WAR ON DRUGS AND IS UNNECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE STEPS RECENTLY TAKEN BY THE PRESIDENT TO PROVIDE FOR COMPREHENSIVE AND EFFECTIVE COORDINATION OF DRUG POLICY WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, I URGE YOU TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL REASONS TO REJECT IT.

- WE ALREADY HAVE EFFECTIVE, INFORMED LEADERSHIP OF FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS. THE MEASURE WE SHOULD USE IS NOT A "WISH LIST" OF IDEAL POLICY BOARD ACCOMPLISHMENTS, BUT THE STATE OF DRUG POLICY COORDINATION THAT EXISTED IN 1980 WHEN WE CAME INTO OFFICE. THE NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT POLICY BOARD, CREATED BY THE COMPREHENSIVE CRIME CONTROL ACT OF 1984, HAS BEEN REASONABLY SUCCESSFUL IN COORDINATING THE REVIEW, EVALUATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF UNITED STATES DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICY, STRATEGY,

AND RESOURCES. WE ARE MAKING STEADY PROGRESS IN ESTABLISHING A MORE STRUCTURED AND DETAILED FRAMEWORK TO FACILITATE CENTRALIZED POLICY AND STRATEGY DIRECTION AND ENHANCED COORDINATION.

- o THE PRESIDENT HAS ALREADY CONSOLIDATED BOTH DRUG DEMAND AND SUPPLY REDUCTION OVERSIGHT INTO ONE CABINET-LEVEL BODY. IN SHORT, THE NEW POLICY BOARD WILL ENHANCE GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO CUT THE DEMAND FOR DRUGS WHILE MAINTAINING AND STRENGTHENING OUR LONG-RANGE DRIVE TO REDUCE THE SUPPLY OF DRUGS WITHOUT CREATING ADDITIONAL BUREAUCRACY.

- o OUR CABINET STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT HAS SERVED THIS NATION WELL THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY. THE DRUG CZAR WOULD UNDERMINE THIS SUCCESSFUL SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT BY CREATING A "SUPER CABINET OFFICER", A SO-CALLED "DRUG CZAR" INTERPOSED BETWEEN CABINET MEMBERS AND THE PRESIDENT. THIS INTRUSION INTO THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT'S SENIOR ADVISERS IS AS ILL-ADVISED AS IT IS UNPRECEDENTED. THE PRESIDENT SHOULD REMAIN FREE TO CONSULT WITH AND COORDINATE ACTIONS BY CABINET OFFICIALS IN ANY MANNER HE BELIEVES APPROPRIATE. FURTHERMORE, THE BILL PROVIDES THE DRUG CZAR NO CLEAR ROLE AND THEREFORE HIS PRESENCE WOULD CONFUSE, DELAY AND MAKE MORE COMPLICATED THE EXECUTIVE'S EFFORTS TO COORDINATE DRUG POLICY.

- THE BILL DOES NOT PURPORT TO DISPLACE THE AUTHORITY OF CABINET OFFICIALS TO DETERMINE HOW BEST TO EXERCISE THEIR STATUTORY FUNCTIONS. THE BILL COULD NOT DELEGATE SUCH GENERAL AUTHORITIES TO THE "DRUG CZAR" WITHOUT SUBSTANTIALLY DAMAGING THE EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION OF OUR LAWS.

- THE BILL WOULD PURPORT TO AUTHORIZE THE DRUG CZAR TO "DIRECT" CABINET OFFICIALS TO CARRY OUT HIS POLICIES, BUT QUALIFIES THAT POWER BY REQUIRING THAT IT BE "CONSISTENT WITH THE GENERAL AUTHORITY OF EACH AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT." SUCH A PROVISION GUARANTEES DELAY AND BUREAUCRATIC IN-FIGHTING, TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE BATTLE AGAINST DRUGS. THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH SIMPLY CANNOT BE STRUCTURED IN THIS MANNER AND OPERATE EFFECTIVELY. THIS PRINCIPLE WILL BE VALID, REGARDLESS OF WHO IS PRESIDENT, REGARDLESS OF HIS PARTY AFFILIATION, AND DESPITE THE GOOD FAITH AND BEST EFFORTS OF THE PERSONS WHO WILL OCCUPY THESE POSITIONS.

- THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON ORGANIZED CRIME CLEARLY ENDORSED THE CONCEPT OF INDEPENDENT CABINET-LEVEL AGENCIES WITH SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT SUCCESS. I AGREE WHOLEHEARTEDLY WITH THE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS AGAINST A DRUG CZAR:

IT IS NEITHER POSSIBLE NOR DESIRABLE UNDER OUR SYSTEM OF LAW TO INVEST A BOARD CHAIRMAN OR ANY OTHER "CZAR" WITH DICTATORIAL POWER TO COMMAND OTHER CABINET MEMBERS TO CONDUCT THE AFFAIRS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS IN A PARTICULAR FASHION.

- o WE DO NOT NEED THE ADDITIONAL LAYER OF BUREAUCRACY WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH THAT THE BILL PROPOSES. THE PROPOSED BILL CALLS FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW SUPER-CABINET LEVEL OFFICE. SUCH AN OFFICE WOULD BE EXPENSIVE TO MAINTAIN, AND WOULD REQUIRE SIGNIFICANT STAFF AND OTHER RESOURCES THAT WOULD INEVITABLY BE DRAWN FROM CURRENT DRUG CONTROL AND OTHER SOCIAL PROGRAMS. IN CONTRAST, CURRENT DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS HAVE BEEN, AND CONTINUE TO BE, ENHANCED THROUGH EXISTING ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES.

- o THE DRUG CZAR CONCEPT WOULD HAMPER EXISTING DRUG CONTROL ACTIVITIES. THE BURDENSOME LAYER OF NEW BUREAUCRACY IT CREATES WOULD DETRACT FROM DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS, RESTRICTING THE DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY OF CABINET OFFICIALS, AND REDUCING INTER-DEPARTMENTAL AND INTERAGENCY POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND DISCUSSION. THE DRUG CZAR WOULD FURTHER CARVE UP THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM AND WOULD THREATEN THE AUTONOMY OF TREASURY, JUSTICE, TRANSPORTATION, AND STATE, AS WELL AS HHS AND THE DEMAND

SIDE AGENCIES. THE SERIOUSNESS OF THIS THREAT IS UNDERSCORED BY THE OVERWHELMING OPPOSITION TO THIS PROPOSAL BY THE FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY AS WELL AS BY SUCH GROUPS AS THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEY'S GENERAL.

- o THE DRUG CZAR WOULD BE BAD PRECEDENT. THE CREATION OF A DRUG CZAR WOULD SERVE AS PRECEDENT FOR CREATION OF A "TERRORISM CZAR" AND OTHER "CZARS" TO DEAL WITH ANY ISSUE THAT CUTS ACROSS DEPARTMENTAL LINES. THIS IS CLEARLY THE MOST CUMBERSOME WAY OF DEALING WITH PROBLEMS HAVING INTER-DEPARTMENTAL JURISDICTION.

IN CONCLUSION LET ME STRESS THAT THE POLICY BOARD DOES NOT HAVE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT AND DEMAND REDUCTION ACTIVITIES. WE DO HAVE POLICY RESPONSIBILITY TO FACILITATE THE COORDINATION OF OPERATIONS AND POLICY UNDER THE TERMS OF THE NATIONAL NARCOTICS ACT OF 1984. WE DO NOT MICRO-MANAGE THE OPERATIONS OF ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. THOSE DOING THE JOB IN THE FIELD ARE NORMALLY GIVEN THE FLEXIBILITY, WITHIN LEGAL CONSTRAINTS, TO GET THE JOB DONE IN CONCERT WITH OUR OVERALL NATIONAL STRATEGY. WHEN AN INTERAGENCY COORDINATION OR COOPERATION PROBLEM SURFACES, WE DEAL WITH IT AT THE POLICY BOARD. WE WELCOME YOUR CONCERN AND INTEREST IN THIS PROCESS.

THIS CONCLUDES MY PREPARED STATEMENT. I WOULD BE HAPPY TO RESPOND TO ANY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING THE WORK OF THE POLICY BOARD.

*U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1987- 181-487:60137